



Attorney Docket No. 990551DD/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Masakazu MURAKAMI et al

Division of  
Serial No. : 09/393,745

Filed : HEREWITH

For : ELECTRICAL CONNECTION BOX

Art Unit : 2833

Examiner : R. Gushi

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-8, without prejudice, and add new claims 9-11 as follows:

--9. (New) A method of assembling an electrical connection box, comprising:

providing first and second casings that are capable of being combined with each other;

5 providing an electrically insulating wiring board between the first and second casings, wherein the wiring board comprises a wiring path in a desired shape and a holding portion, said

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*Sharon Portnoy*  
Sharon Portnoy

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

holding portion being wider than the wiring path;  
10 laying a wire in the wiring path of the wiring board such  
that a leader of the wire, including any bent portion thereof, is  
held in the holding portion of the wiring board as the wire is  
laid; and

combining the first and second casings with the wiring board  
located therebetween.

10. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein said  
wiring path comprises a laying groove, and said holding portion  
comprises a holding recess that is wider than the laying groove.

11. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein said  
holding recess is extended on both sides of the laying groove in  
a width direction of the laying groove.--

R E M A R K S

This application is a Divisional Application of parent application Serial No. 09/393,745 filed September 10, 1999.

Consideration of this application, as preliminarily amended, is respectfully requested.

THE REFERENCES

In parent application Serial No. 09/393,745, the Examiner relied upon a combination of the admitted prior art and USP 5,709,564 (Yamada et al) in rejecting the claims of the parent application. This rejection is traversed hereinbelow with respect to the new method claims set forth hereinabove.

THE CLAIMS

Original apparatus claims 1-8 have all been canceled, without prejudice, and new method claims 9-11 have been added.

New method claims 9-11 correspond to the second amended method claims 3-5 which were set forth in the Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 filed in parent application Serial No. 09/393,745 on December 7, 2000. Those second amended method claims 3-5 were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as being directed to a (constructively) non-elected invention in the Office Action dated May 14, 2001 in the CPA of the parent application.

As described in detail in the Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 filed in the parent application on December 7, 2000, the method claims emphasize the inventive feature of the present invention

whereby a wire is laid in the wiring path of the wiring board such that a leader of the wire, including any bent portion thereof, is held in a holding portion of the wiring board as the wire is laid. (See the disclosure in the present specification at page 11, lines 2-17.)

It is respectfully submitted that the method of the present invention clearly patentably distinguishes over the combination of the admitted prior art and USP 5,709,564 (Yamada et al). This is because neither the admitted prior art nor Yamada et al discloses, teaches or suggests the inventive feature of the method of the present invention as recited in new claims 9-11 whereby a wire is laid in the wiring path of the wiring board such that a leader of the wire, including any bent portion thereof, is held in the holding portion of the wiring board as the wire is laid.

#### DRAWINGS

Submitted herewith is a Letter to the Official Draftsperson requesting approval to amend the drawings as follows:

1. In Figs. 9-12, add the label --(PRIOR ART)-- as indicated in yellow highlighting on the accompanying copies; and
2. In Fig. 9, add the additional reference numeral "2a" and its lead line, as indicated in yellow highlighting on the accompanying copy.

A complete set of Formal Drawings (which incorporates the amendments noted above) is attached to the Accurate English translation of the application along with a copy of the executed Declaration.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Submitted herewith is a Form PTO/SB/08A listing the particulars of the documents cited by the Applicant and Examiner in the parent application, and which were made "of record" in the parent application.

Copies of the publications listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A are not supplied herewith. As per 37 CFR 1.98(d), which was effective March 16, 1992, copies of publications listed in an Information Disclosure Statement are not required to be provided if the information was cited or submitted in a prior application. The present application properly identifies parent application Serial No. 09/393,745 (Filed: September 10, 1999) and relies upon the prior parent application for an earlier filing date under 35 USC 120.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the publications identified on the attached form PTO/SB/08A and make them of record, as in the parent application.

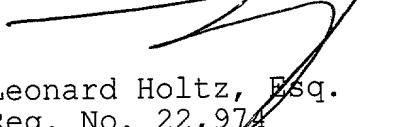
It is further requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08A publications listed therein have been made of record.

The publications listed on the form PTO/SB/08A are all relevant since they are "of record" in the parent application which is directed to similar subject matter.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Preliminary Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

July 13, 2001

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07-16-01

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LETTER TO OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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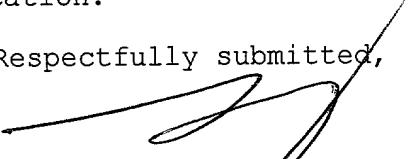
S I R :

Please approve of the following proposed amendments:

1. In Figs. 9-12, add the label --(PRIOR ART)-- as highlighted in yellow on the accompanying copies; and
2. In Fig. 9, add the additional reference numeral "2a" and its lead line, as highlighted in yellow on the accompanying copy.

Also submitted herewith is a complete new set of Formal Drawings, 8 sheets, Figs. 1-12 (with the proposed amendments to Figs. 9-12 included thereon). Since corrected sheets of Formal Drawings are supplied herewith, no further drawing corrections should be required upon allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

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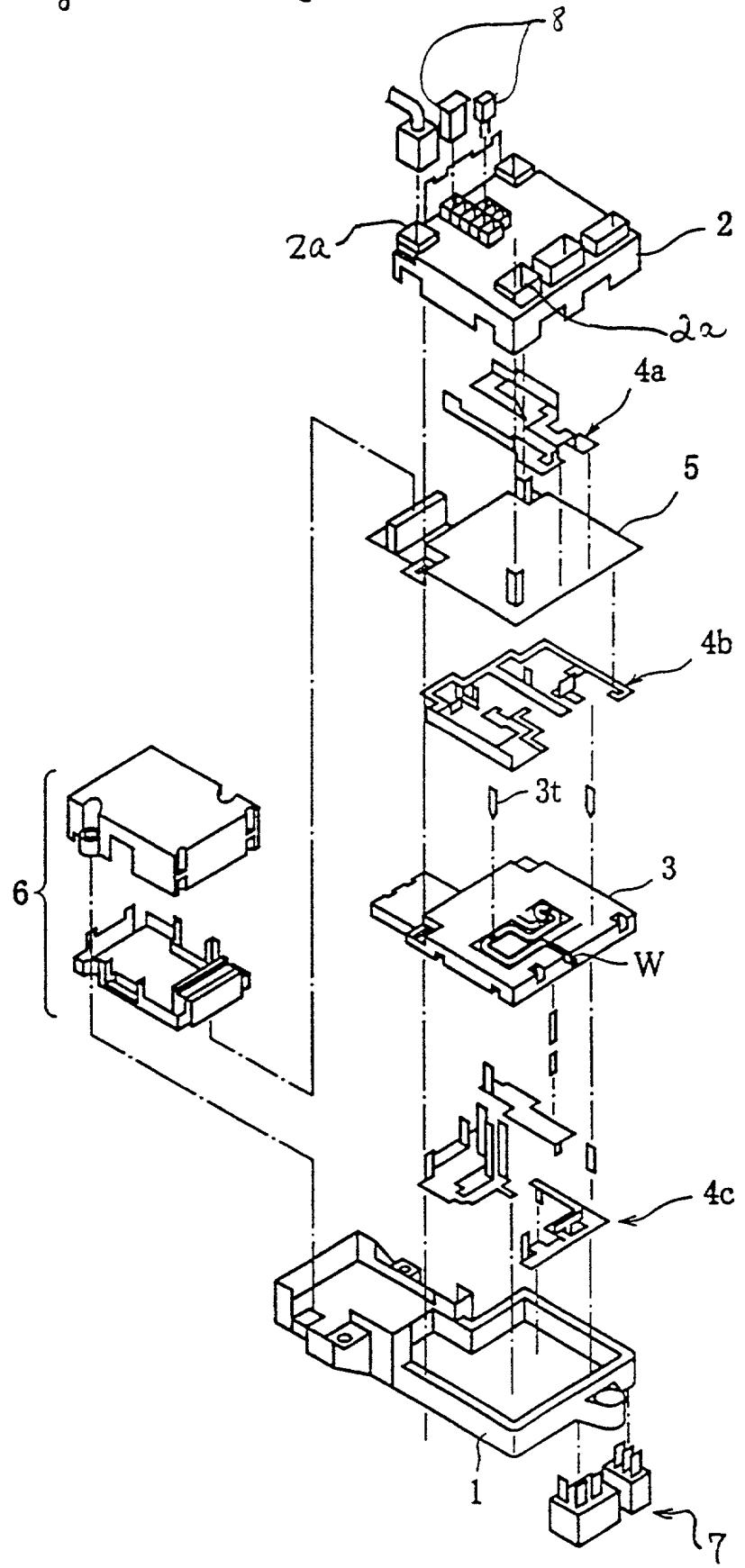
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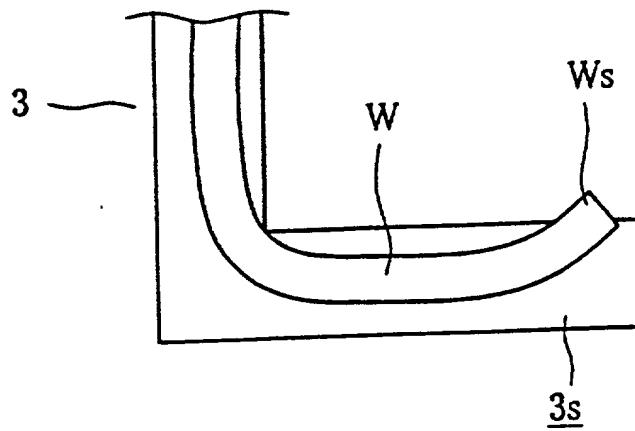
~~Fig. 9~~ Fig. 9

(PRIOR ART)



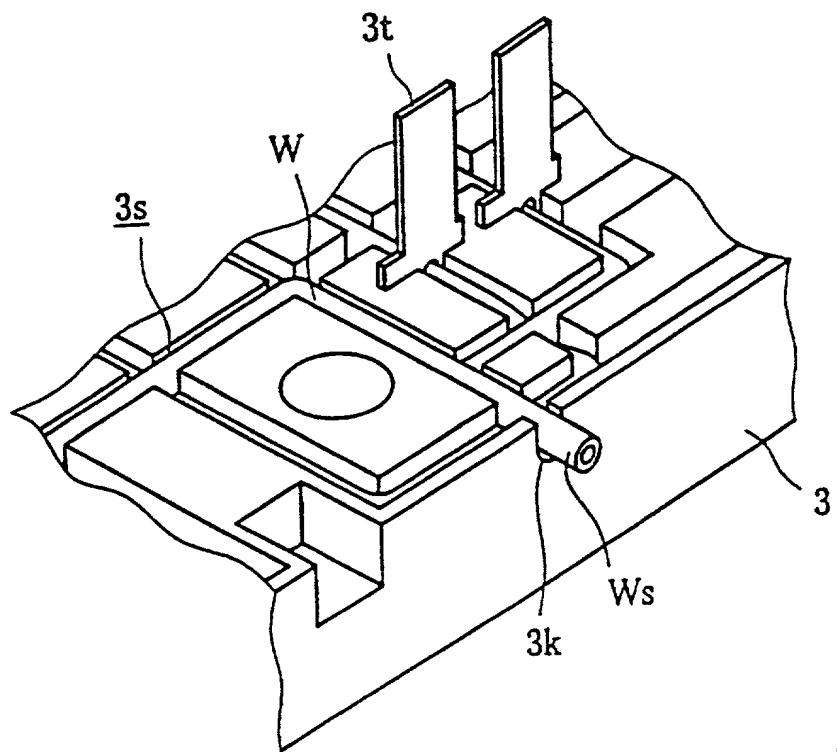
~~Fig. 10~~

(PRIOR ART)



~~Fig. 11~~ Fig. 11

(PRIOR ART)



~~Fig. 12~~ Fig. 12

(PRIOR ART)

